VOL. 15 AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1971 NO. 5

LESLIE L. PARKER, 32°, K.C.C.H.
Newly Elected Commander, New Bern Council of Kadosh No. 4

REGULAR MEETING

New Bern Lodge of Perfection No. 6
Monday Night, September 13, 1971
8:00 P.M.
— Refreshments —

THE BAGPIPE

516 Hancock St., New Bern, N. C.

Issued Monthly except July and August by
NEW BERN SCOTTISH RITE BODIES
New Bern, N. C. 28560

ROBERT L. PUGH.....*Editor*
FLORIE G. DILL.....*Ass't. Editor*

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New Bern, N. C. Aug.-Sept., 1971

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Senior Warden.....Nat M. Baxter
Junior Warden.....C. Neil Vester
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The several Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of New Bern, Orient of North Carolina, acknowledge and yield Allegiance to the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, the Mother Supreme-Council of the World, whose see is at Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, of which HENRY C. CLAUSEN, 33°, is Grand Commander,

Ill. James G. Johnston 33°

C. FRED KLEINKNECHT, JR., 33°, is Grand Secretary General, JAMES G. JOHNSTON, 33°, is Sovereign Grand Inspector General in N. C., and ROBERT L. PUGH, 33°, is Personal Representative in the Valley of New Bern of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in N. C.

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SECRETARY'S PAGE

R. L. Pugh, 33°

About the time you are receiving this issue, the summer holidays will have ended, Labor Day itself will have marked an official end to a most enjoyable season of the year. During the summer, we have all had our vacations, the Lodges have been more or less engaged in their routine business with very little degree of activity.

All of that is ended now, however, and the time for activity has really begun in earnest. In just a short while the "Dynamic Freedoms Reunion" will be upon us, November 16, 17 and 18, and at this stage of the game we have every confidence that this is going to be the biggest and best Reunion we have ever held. We began receiving petitions for this Reunion during the month of June and they are continuing to come in at a pace greater than ever before recorded. Hence, we have every right to look forward to a big Reunion and we have more encouragement than ever to bend our energies to that end.

We will engage in a number of ladies night parties throughout our area; we will have more of them this season than we were privileged to have during the Spring season and some of these parties will be in areas where there is now a great deal of enthusiasm and also in which we have not been able to have a party for several years. Information from these target areas leads us to believe that the Brethren have a large number of prospects and that they are more anxious than ever to get busy.

The Tuesday night banquet hour, November 16th, will be known as the "Awards Night" at which time recognition will be given not only to our new Fifty Year Veterans, but also to those newly created K.C.C.H.'s and 33° men who will have been honored by our Supreme Council with election to that particular honor. The Wednesday evening hour will be dedicated to one of our most beloved Brethren, Edward P. Blair, 33°, honored, beloved and distinguished lecturer for the class of candidates. Thursday evening hour, November 18, will be known as "Grand Master's Night", with the Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina, Most Worshipful Brother William W. Mims, Jr., 33°, and all of the Grand Lodge officers present for the occasion.

Surely these items in themselves will constitute an excellent Reunion, but just think of how much more we have to offer.

Let's begin making our plans now. Call us for any assistance.

R. L. Pugh

Robert L. Pugh, 33°
Secretary

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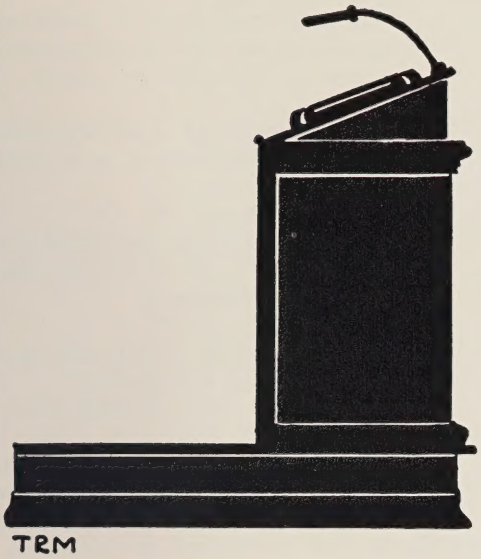

From The Classroom

BY EDWARD P. BLAIR, 33° CLASS LECTURER

A WAY TO A BETTER LIFE

Every person at times has dreams of something better, higher, visions of grandeur. Gentleman Jim Corbett once said, "I attribute my success in life to a great desire to really be somebody." A prerequisite to a better life is to have something to hold on to, an anchor, Faith, Hope and Charity; to have a strong moral desire, a philosophy and a belief in God. These things or a combination of them, has carried or lifted up many a person through times of stress and strain as we go through our daily living.

Herein comes our need for religion. A deep abiding Faith in a power greater than we are. I know of no finer Movement than Scottish Masonry with which to aid and bolster our religion or yearning for a higher plain of living. There must assuredly be a Power greater than we are. Look at the symmetry and order of the Universe. Man's recent trip to the moon was not just a "happen so". It conformed to a schedule every step of the way. Other astronauts spoke of the artificer or Creator of things round about us.

Scottish Masonry gives everyone a much needed look at himself. We were not just put here to mean nothing, do nothing and be nothing. We were created to be somebody, with great possibilities to be . . . To give . . . and to share. No man can honestly subscribe to his obligations without coming closer to his God and a better way of life. We see ourselves as we never have before — we see the Dignity of Man. We catch a glimpse of the immortality of the human soul. We see the fellowship of kindred minds as we reach outward and upward.

We can take pride in the fact that in almost every home, city or tower, there are Fellow-Masons helping in their own way to make the world a better place in which to live. Like the sign on rear of a candy truck, "our mission is to make Life *Sweeter*.

Our country and many of the people have shared troubled times before. It was not chemistry, science or economy, they put their trust in to lift them upwards but it was a better way of life. In our country, we have faced agonizing tests more than once during its short history. In many of these cases, it has been Masonic minds — directing Masonic hands that plotted the course through these stormy times. A brief history of the United States would reveal the names of Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison and countless others in your time and mine. You are more than an ordinary man if you subscribe to the beliefs of Free Masonry.

In every instance our philosophy of Freedom, Justice and Mercy has come to the front as the best solution to the troubled waters that we have seen. Even now, while we are searching Economics, Science and Education for answers, we need to turn to religion, to the dignity of man and a strong belief in God, rather than to the ideas of Force, Fanaticism, Intolerance, and Indifference. *You cannot buy a better way of living; it must*

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be lived. As Edgar A. Guest pointed out in his poem, "It takes a lot of living in a house to make it a home."

We need to stop telling the world and the people therein what we are against but we should tell others and *show in our daily living what we are for.* The best anecdote to communism and fanaticism is not more of the same, but a simple firm *belief in God* and the *Dignity of man.*

I believe from the bottom of my heart that some of the answers to the problems of our time must be to have a dominant, vibrant, faith in trying to do what is right, based on the spirit within; and the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Those who do this seem to be living life at its best. Therefore, we must hold fast to the tenets of our order and our relationship to God and to man.

In every single degree of our Movement, there is a blueprint for better living. It is up to us to try to live life at its best. No one can do it for us. We will never win this war or anything else by piling blocks on top of each other. Sooner or later they will totter and fall. Would it not be better then to *build up blocks of love and friendship, cemented together by the spirit of goodwill.*

I believe that this was the purpose of our creation by the Divine Creator and not for bias, ugly, despised things which make up unprofitable living. Such are the noble teachings of Scottish Rite Masonry.

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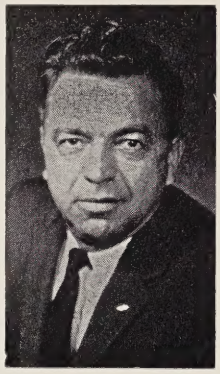
Bagpipe Skirls

Dear Brethren,

July and August have sped away, the days are beginning to get a little still (but not much cooler) and the beautiful green of nature is beginning to fade. That spells the end of summer and the ringing of school bells. To some that is a sad note and to others a very welcomed one.



Our lives are spent in schools. There are schools of learning, adventure, disappointment, happiness, and many other fields that make living worthwhile. Each new experience has a way of broadening our lives, and that is a broad field — that experience business. It is said to be the best teacher. Some of those teachers are hard as nails, too.

What all this is leading up to is — the bag and I hope you've had a wonderful vacation and summer that have been full of wonderful and rewarding experiences.

* * * * *

OVERHEARD IN AN ORCHARD

Said the robin to the sparrow;
"I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings
Rush about and worry so."
Said the sparrow to the robin:
"Friend, I think that it must be
That they have no heavenly Father
Such as cares for you and me."

* * * * *

Always put off until tomorrow the things you should not do today.

* * * * *

When we are right, we credit our judgment; when we are wrong, we blame our luck.

* * * * *

A visitor took his small son to Washington. The little boy watched from the gallery when the House of Representatives came to order.

"Why did the minister pray for all those men, Dad?" he asked.

"He didn't, Son," answered the father. "He looked them over and then prayed for the country."

* * * * *

If Congress placed taxes on deaths and funerals, it would be able to get us coming and going, not just while we're here.

* * * * *

The most influential of all educational factors is the conversation in a child's home.

* * * * *

If your plan is for a year, plant rice; for 10 years, plant trees; for 100 years, educate men. — Confucius

* * * * *

Personnel Director: "And how many words can you type per minute?"
Would-be-typist: "Big or little ones?"

* * * * *

A teacher had been telling her class about the weather in different seasons, pointing out the variable weather in March.

"What is it that comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb?" she asked in the way of review and thought.

Little Millie raised her hand and replied, "My father."

* * * * *

Office receptionist: "He's busy right now, could you call back in a couple of innings?"

* * * * *

If you want to spend your money and have something to show for it — try eating rich foods.

* * * * *

If it's painful for you to criticize your friends, you're safe in doing it; if you take the slightest pleasure in it, that's the time to hold your tongue.

* * * * *

Now, my friends, the bag says it's time to draw this to a close. He's been taking it so easy for the past few weeks that he's a little short winded. As a farewell note he blasts, "The only fellow who never steps on anybody else's toes is standing still."

Your piper,
Paul Stevens

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SORROW — SORROW — SORROW

Date of Birth: March 12, 1885
Place of Birth: Plymouth, N. C.

Date of Death: June 6, 1971
Place of Death: Plymouth, N. C.

Brother "Dick" Lucas, 33°, one of the most beloved members the Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of New Bern has ever had, was called by the Supreme Architect of the Universe to receive Eternal commendations of his labors here on earth on June 6, 1971. The Immortality Reunion April 1971 honored Brother Dick during its Wednesday evening banquet hour, which was designated the "Dick Lucas Night". Present for the occasion was his beloved wife and close companion for many years, "Miss Caddie". Brief tribute to Brother Dick's Masonic life and his wholesome influence were made during the hour which culminated with the presentation to him of a "Certificate of Merit", an official expression of appreciation of the many years of service to the cause of the Scottish Rite which he had contributed. It was a wonderful evening and when one reflects upon the fact that in less than two months time Brother Dick's soul had gone on to its Eternal reward, we must all bow our heads in expression of gratification that the recognition of his service was such a timely one. No Reunion will ever be the same without his presence.

Many of our Brethren will reflect upon his faithful attendance at every Reunion, sitting in his customary chair throughout every degree and accompanied by his very faithful and long time friend, Brother Raymond Leggett, 32°, K.C.C.H. As long as the memory of our generation shall last we shall reflect upon the manner in which his very presence in any group was a rich benediction. No one has ever enjoyed a higher degree of popularity, because he was always the center of attraction whenever he was present. The Brethren always loved to assemble around him and they never failed to leave his presence without a feeling that he had contributed something that made them a little better because they had been with him.

Richard Harvey Lucas was born March 12, 1885 in Plymouth, N. C. He received his public school education in the city schools of Plymouth, following which he attended Wake Forest College from 1901 until 1903. He had wanted to become a medical physician and had gone to Wake Forest to prepare himself for his profession. However, he had been troubled with poor eye sight for some years and he was unable to continue his college career.

Realizing that because of his rapidly failing eyesight he would be unable to pursue his long desired ambition, he returned to his home to be confronted with a period of adjustment. He was prepared to make this adjustment and he faced it courageously with the same qualities of courage and unflinching desire to serve in some capacity. It was during this period that he yielded himself to the Divine Will and began to prepare himself for active Christian ministry. His sight had now completely left him, but he began the study of Braille and he mastered it. To prepare himself even more effectively he studied under the tutelage of several other ministers for several years. Following the completion of his preparatory program he then preached in several churches in Washington County, including the First Baptist Church in Plymouth. He later held pastorates both in Ayden and Belhaven.

Brother Dick was married to Miss Caddie Phelps on December 4, 1915 and from this union they had one son, Richard Harvey Lucas, Jr. with whom they resided.

His Masonic history is a masterpiece of courage and ambition. He was raised a Master Mason in Perquimans Lodge No. 59 in Plymouth in 1913 and he served as Master of this Lodge in 1934. In 1913 he also became a member of the Eastern Star. He became a Certified Lecturer for the Grand Lodge in 1943 and he maintained his certification until his death.

Brother Dick also served as District Deputy Grand Lecturer and District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Masonic District. In these two capacities he was exceedingly faithful and he discharged his responsibilities with the highest degree of effectiveness.

It is worthy of note also that in 1954 he was appointed Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, a position which he filled with dignity and with a spiritual capacity that added an atmosphere of reverence to every meeting.

During the Immortality Reunion when Brother Dick was honored, one of our members, Brother Joseph G. McDaniel, 32°, and a very close friend and admirer of Brother Lucas, and who has since been dubbed the "Poet Laureate" of the New Bern Scottish Rite Bodies, composed a poem which very beautifully expresses the sentiments of our Brethren and we would like to include in this tribute the beautiful expression:

DICK LUCAS

"More light has surely come to me
From one whose eyes will never see
The sunshine of my path each day,—
But who could better show the way?
Through the years, his radiant smile
Has brightened each succeeding mile;
And from this man so truly good,
I've learned the worth of brotherhood.
The sermon that he preaches best,
More eloquent than all the rest,
Is one he lives, with gentle touch,
And words could never say as much.
So wrong are those who think him blind,
His vision reaches all mankind,
And I for one am glad tonight
He taught us how to see the light.
Dick Lucas . . . Mason . . . Man of God,
Blessed is the ground your feet have trod,
And blessed are we who honor you
With feeble praises, long overdue."

—J. Gaskill McDaniel

It is anticipated that a memorial service will be held during the forthcoming "Dynamic Freedoms Reunion", either immediately before the beginning of the degrees, or sometime during the Reunion. Reference has already been made to Brother Dick's habitual use of one particular chair while he was witnessing the presentation of the degrees. Brother McDaniel has also given expression to these lines which will be appropriately assigned to this chair:

"You have climbed
God's Golden Stair,
But this remains
Your special chair."

100 YEAR OLD SCOTTISH RITE VETERAN

Brother Edmund R. Gassman, the Valley of New Bern's newest centenarian, celebrated his one hundredth birthday in New Bern on Saturday, July 17, 1971. Brother Gassman is a 32° Scottish Rite Mason with his membership in Galveston, Texas where he received his 32° on March 7, 1912 and hence he has been a Scottish Rite Mason for a period of 59 years.

As may be seen in the picture Brother Gassman is comparatively hale and hearty; as a matter of fact he and illness have been strangers for a long time. In the picture he is flanked on the left by his son, Brother Morgan S. Gassman who is likewise a 32° Mason with his membership in the Valley of New Bern where he has lived for some years. On the right is Brother Gassman's devoted daughter-in-law, who, incidentally, was employed in the House of the Temple in Washington in 1923. She was Miss Bertha Jane Young at that time and a year later she married Morgan S. Gassman.

Before Brother Gassman's ability to move around became a little impaired he was a constant visitor to the New Bern Reunions and invariably would sit through every degree. He was and still is a great conversationalist and the brethren found him to be the center of attraction whenever he appeared.

Brother Gassman was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason about 1900 and thus he ranks as one of the oldest Master Masons in the country today.

He has lived in New Bern since 1966, moving here to live with his son and daughter-in-law. Until three years ago he drove his own car and even now he especially enjoys an auto ride with his son. He spends most of his time reading books and newspapers and he still types all his personal letters and business correspondence. He is also a keen and enthusiastic baseball fan and he never misses a game on the TV.

Mrs. Morgan S. Gassman, Edmund R. Gassman and son, Morgan S. Gassman

He was born in the northwestern part of Ohio, where his father was a farmer and carpenter and one of the earliest things Edmund remembers is trees being cut down in order to expand the farm.

Believe it or not, Edmund was somewhat "puny" as a child and he reports that he missed one year of school because of illness. However after graduating from high school his first job was that of a telegrapher for the Lakeshore, Michigan Railroad Company and he has enjoyed hard work and good health ever since. He became an expert telegrapher and worked for thirty years in Ohio, Illinois, Iowa and Texas.

In 1920 he began working for the Sinclair Refining Company in Chicago and they assigned him a first responsibility of building one hundred service stations in Chicago. He was later a bulk salesman in Texas, Florida, New York City, South Carolina and Virginia, retiring from Sinclair in 1942 at the age of 71. He then became self-employed and opened the first trailer park in South Carolina which was located near Charleston, finally selling the business in 1961 at the age of 90.

His wife died in 1963 and he subsequently moved to New Bern.

He has traveled extensively throughout the United States, Mexico and Canada, but his chief travel ambition he has not as yet been able to realize: he would like to tour some of the foreign countries.

Interestingly enough Brother Gassman has some fascinating advice for the younger generation and that is this: "Be a human sponge. Learn all you can about the job above you and you will be a success."

On the day of his one hundredth anniversary celebration a large number of well wishers called upon Brother Gassman to express their congratulations and appreciation. A number of Scottish Rite brethren visited him and participated in a cake cutting and social gathering in which Brother Gassman was still the life of the party.

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DOWN ONSLOW WAY

By

Reynold S. Davenport, 33°

Too much reflection is not particularly good for your state of mind, not unless you are somehow capable of excluding disturbing thoughts from your reflective processes. The other day I reflected a mite too much and it all of a sudden occurred to me that the only way I can be around to greet the dawn of the twenty-first century is to live beyond the Biblically allotted three score and ten. Not only that, I'd have to run counter to the best prognostications of the statisticians, theareticians, and diagnosticians. My incautious use of tobacco and infrequent use of exercise over the years sort of discourage optimism concerning my ability to upset all those odds.

And, you know, I had been sort of looking forward to getting a great big cackle out of the efforts to break centuries-old habits when alluding to dates. It is easy to say that Chris came over in fourteen ninety-two, or that we declared our independence in seventeen seventy-six, or that the Japs got nasty in nineteen forty-one, but how is it going to be when we get out of the teens? Will they say the war with Mars began in twenty-twelve, or will it be two thousand and twelve? Of course, if things keep on like they seem to be generally heading it doesn't appear that the method of alluding to dates is going to head up the list of problems the next century will usher in.

When I get to doing some real hard reflecting and contemplate all the problems that are promised for the twenty-first century, I'm not so sure I want to be around after all. It is variously predicted that fairly early in the next century the population growth will have limited each individual to about twenty square feet of terra firma, that there won't be anything like enough food to go around, that we will have used up just about every source of energy except the sun, and that even the sun will have a right hard time penetrating all the pollution. This is a right disheartening prospect, and I don't really know of anything I could contribute to the mess if I was still hanging around.

It looks as if somebody needs to step up the experiments in aquatic living because a whole lot of folks are going to find twenty square feet sort of binding and some will have to take to living on the oceans and some under them. And we'd better get to work training some earthonauts to garner some information on the case for living in inner space. They can stack 'em in layers down there, but there will be those with honest opinions of their performances up here who just aren't going to want to voluntarily move

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in that direction. Then, too, apartment buildings can be designed to go on up several hundred stories — they might even get them above some of the pollution. I don't see too much future in living on the moon, or the planets, or in space generally — our talents seem to lie in messing up atmospheres, not in creating new ones. The coming century promises to be interesting and depressing, and I'm not making plans to participate in it.

We still have part of the present century to worry about and I sure wish the weather folks would quit entertaining grandiose dreams of controlling hurricanes. They can't even predict their courses now and I just can't see what would give them any notion they can make a hurricane change its mind. But again this year they're talking about dropping chemicals in some hurricanes and tearing 'em up. I've been in some hurricanes and I know what it is that gets torn up — all they're going to do is make some hurricane mad and when that happens I certainly hope I'm at least ten thousand miles from the point of irritation.

That's all from Onslow.

ACTIVE SCOTTISH RITE WORKER RECOGNIZED

M. J. Stokes, 32°, K.C.C.H.

On June 16, 1971 in Cincinnati, Ohio, the 70th regular session of the Junior Order United American Mechanics closed following a most interesting session. Our Scottish Rite members will be interested to know that one of the members of our Court of Honour, Brother Maurice J. Stokes, 32°, K.C.C.H., more popularly known as Brother "Jeff", was elevated to the rank of National Counselor, the top position of that organization.

We congratulate Brother Stokes on this recognition of his service and of his ability, and at the same time we would heartily rejoice with the Junior Order in their ability to avail themselves of the exceptional talents of this outstanding and beloved Mason.

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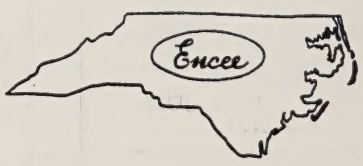

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PROMOTED TO BRIGIDIER GENERAL

Brig. General Herbert L. Wilkerson, 32°

The Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of New Bern are always pleased to recognize the successful achievements of its members and it takes a great deal of pride, therefore, in presenting to its members the achievement of one of its newly created 32° Masons: Brother Herbert L. Wilkerson of Camp Lejeune, N. C.

Brother Wilkerson has formerly held the rank of Colonel but he is now being elevated to the rank of Brigadier General. As a Colonel he was serving as Chief of Staff of the Marine Corps Base at Camp Lejeune and many of our members will remember him as the very outstanding active candidate in the 31° during the Immortality Reunion of the Scottish Rite Bodies in New Bern last April 1971. He was particularly outstanding as the active candidate and his reaction to the degree indicated very conclusively that a high degree of understanding had been achieved.

General Wilkerson has had the distinction of serving in three wars with the First Marine Division: first of all at Guadalcanal in World War II when he served as a squad leader in the 7th Marines; then later Korea as a rifle company executive officer and regimental staff officer in the 5th Marines; still later as Commanding Officer, 1st Marines, in Vietnam. Thus his fascinating career has covered a period of thirty years of active military participation in conflict.

His awards include: Legion of Merit with Combat "V", Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation with four stars, the Good Conduct Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two stars, the American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, the China Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal with one star, Korean Service Medal with four stars, Vietnamese Service Medal with two stars, United Nations Service Medal, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, two Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry, with Palm and gold star, Korean Order of Military Merit Hwa Rang, Vietnamese Medal of Honor First Class and the Vietnamese Campaign Medal with clasp.

General Wilkerson is married to the former Jeanne Coffin, the daughter of the late Congressman T. C. Coffin, of Pocatello, Idaho. They have three sons: Capt. Thomas L. Wilkerson, USMC, stationed with the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing at Beaufort, S. C. Richard N. Wilkerson, an engineer with Proctor and Gamble in Jackson, Tennessee; and Fred C. Wilkerson, a high school student at Sewanee Military Academy, Sewanee, Tennessee. The General's mother, Mrs. F. C. Wilkerson, lives in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

The Scottish Rite Masons in the Valley of New Bern congratulate General Wilkerson on the official recognition which has been given him in his elevation to the rank of Brigadier General; he has been a fine example of the true spirit of Masonry and our Bodies look forward to the enjoyment of further privileges of association with him during his stay at Camp Lejeune.

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"With Mouth To Ear"

BY CLYDE McCARVER, 32°, K.C.C.H.

IT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE

We have been asked on special occasions "What do you behold?" It is a good thing for us to consider that question more often. We are inclined to look at life through the eyes of our contemporaries. Each change modifies the outlook of those who know it. There is a real danger in accepting without examination. We should not simply accept the opinions of our generation and time without questioning whether they are true and worthwhile or not.

In many ways our life style has become off center! The idea of love has become, in many quarters, little more than glamourized lust! A man can make his millions today by writing about the risque and sensual. A book is almost guaranteed a sale if it will appeal to the lower nature of men. Sin has come to the place of being simply recognized as slight indiscretions! We see that the ancient affirmation that honesty is the best policy does not pay dividends in cash! Too many times it is the dishonest who can fill his pockets with cash by his dishonesty. The individual that thumbs his nose at law and order does get by! We might well ask, "What's the use of virture, honesty, and brotherly love?" But, there is a deeper question which we ought to face today: "Are we going to be ironed out in our thinking to the level of the present world? Or, are we going to align ourselves with those who would change conditions?" Every man among us should be posing that question to himself everyday! We need to be reminded that if the perspective is wrong, the whole view is distorted. We would see but characters of truth. This is what our Rite brings us

Rev. Clyde G. McCarver, 32°, K.C.C.H.

to see each time we behold the lessons of the several degrees.

Our own personal problems, as well as the problems of the world, take on entirely different shape when we look at them in the perspective of our noble teachings. We are taught that there must be a renewal of mind and heart which can bring an inner-transformation that will enable us to both know and do the will of the Great Architect of the Universe. We need to tarry long and studiously before the Trestle Board whereon His designs for building a worthwhile life are to be found. We must once again recapture our sense of dignity as a True Craftsman.

An individual's sense of dignity and significance in the Twentieth Century is subjected to many depressants. There are wars to be won, a machine age to be confronted, political systems to be revised, and a life to be spent! Ever remember that when ideals are discarded and when individuals become merely a unit in the functioning of a system that is equally cold to humanity and cruelty, to shame or glory, the assured sense of importance is struck a mortal blow! It is the individual who can spell success or failure in life. In a very real sense, each of us "should receive his supply of corn, grind it in his own hand-mill, and bake bread himself." If ever Masonry suceeds in getting our visions into heavy-soled reality, individual Masons like you and like me will have to do the job.

Man is of pivotal significance in the scheme of things. It is individuals like you and me who will determine the course of history and of the Kingdom of God. How sobering that thought is!! Life's values are not determined by nebulous and impersonal forces; but, rather by individual desires, attitudes, outlooks, and evaluations. Communism, Socialism, Democracy, etc. do not exist in a vacuum. Each is brought about, nurtured, and sustained by individuals. Through indi-

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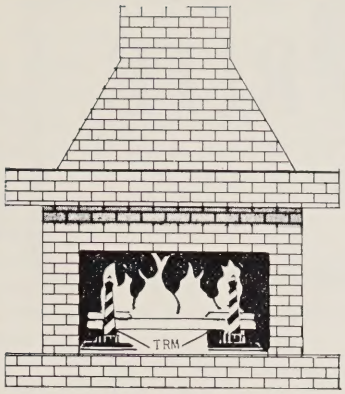
viduals they are born and they can die.

When milestones of effective living are simply the shifting sands of contemporary thought, then man can only act by impulses of the moment. He can never be secure! Each epoch of history has had its' threat of war, famine, economic and social pressures. One needs to remember the admonition given by Sir Winston Churchill, "so act that men who live a thousand years hence shall say 'This was their finest hour.' " Emerson said, "All history resolves itself into the biographies of a few stout and earnest persons".

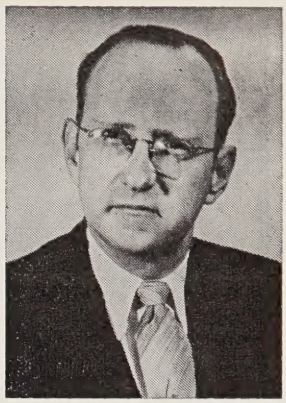
A man finds an unshakable sense of significance if he develops his appreciation of the precepts taught by our Craft. Man is a soul. What he thinks, the loyalties to which he makes his commitment, the good deeds which he does — these have a quality of eternity about them. Brethren, if we are not Craftsmen who are building for eternity, then what are we building for?



HEARTHSIDE CHATS

By

Tom MacRae, 32°



One of the greatest pleasures in our Scottish Rite fraternity is learning that one of our brothers "has made good" and modestly attributes the promotion to another brother's belief in his ability.

By the time this appears in print, there is an excellent chance that Col. Herbert L. Wilkerson, 32°, chief of staff at Camp Lejeune, has exchanged his insignia for the stars of a brigadier general.

A selection board recommended Brother Wilkerson for promotion to flag rank on July 23. The recommendation, of course, is tantamount to promotion. Undoubtedly Brother Wilkerson has splurged on new uniforms and the five-pointed stars to go with them.

Some weeks before the board, meeting behind closed doors in Washington, announced its recommendations, we chatted over coffee with Brother Wilkerson in his office at Camp Lejeune. He confirmed that his name was in the "selection zone" for consideration but emphasized it was "only one among many."

Leaning back in his executive chair (which goes with the job), Brother Wilkerson said "I owe it all" to retired Lt. Gen. Herman Nickerson, 33°.

He recalled it was in Vietnam during 1969 when "I was given the opportunity." At the time Gen. Nickerson was commander of the III Marine Amphibious Force.

"I will never forget that it was Gen. Nickerson who gave me the command of the 1st Marines in Vietnam," he said softly.

Promotion boards, especially while considering colonels for flag rank, tend to favor those candidates who have commanded battalions (regimental commands are more impressive) and "stood the test."

There is no doubt Brother Wilkerson did all that was expected of him as a regimental commander in Vietnam. Any one who knows Gen. Nickerson is aware that he had no qualms about removing an officer who was not doing his job.

No peacetime Marine, Brother Wilkerson has served in three wars. He was a squad leader at Guadalcanal in World War II; a regimental staff officer in Korea; and a regimental commander in Vietnam (and later assistant chief of staff for the II Marine Amphibious Force).

We hope the next time there is a friendly chat with Brother Wilkerson there will be coffee in his office. True, there is coffee on hand now, but there is nothing like drinking it from a cup decorated with a general's stars!

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SCOTTISH RITE CLUBS

Albert Pike Scottish Rite Club

"The Albert Pike Scottish Rite Club" held its regular meeting Monday night June 7, 1971, at "Tetterton's Restaurant" where a soft shell crab dinner was enjoyed by the members and their wives.

It was decided by the club that the July and August meetings be eliminated, and our next meeting will be the first Monday in September.

A spirit of sadness prevailed among the brethren because of the empty chair that was always occupied by brother "Dick Lucas", our oldest and most revered member who died shortly before our meeting.

Many a noted Mason, many a great preacher, has been lost in oblivion in a few years after the grave closed over him, but I venture to believe that the town of Plymouth, yes, the whole State of North Carolina, and the brethren of the Masonic Lodge, in all of its departments, will keep the memory of no other man alive and green so long, so vividly and so lovingly, as that of brother Dick. Many of his characteristic utterances have become proverbial and the flashes of his wit, the play of his fancy, and the gorgeous pictures of his imagination are the constant themes of reminiscence wherever Masons assemble for social conversation. "When we meet together seeking to entertain ourselves, we find we do better with stories of brother Dick than on our own original resources." The influence of his genius, character, and conduct will long be potent and far-reaching in the land.

How it was such an exotic nature, so ardent in all its manifestations, so truly southern and American in its impulses, and at the same time so robust and sturdy in its strength, could have been produced among the great handicaps he endured is a mystery insoluble. Truly "this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes."

Upon the solid rock of the Scriptures he built a magnificent structure of knowledge and acquirement, to which few men in his condition have ever attained. History, philosophy, poetry, fiction, all came as grist to his mental mill. But with him time was too precious to read any trash; he could winnow the wheat from the chaff at touch. He sought knowledge, ideas, for their own sake and for the language in which they were conveyed.

Brother Dick had passed on life's highway the stone that marks the highest point, and being weary for a moment, he lay down by the wayside, and, using his burden for a pillow, fell into that dreamless sleep that kisses down his eyelids still. While yet in love with life and raptured with the world he passed to silence and rest.

This brave and tender man in every storm of life was oak and rock, but in the sunshine he was like the beuatiful flower, so was his friendship to those who knew and loved him.

Death, indeed, cannot sever friendship. "Friends though absent, are still present; though in poverty they are rich; though weak, yet in the enjoyment of health; and, what is still more difficult to assert, though dead they are alive."

To me, indeed, brother Dick still lives and will always live; for I love the virtue of that man, and that worth is not yet and can never be extinguished.

And now as one chosen, from among the many he loved, to have a part in the last sad office for the dead, "We cherish his memory here. We commend his spirit to God who gave it. And commit his body to the tomb." Speech cannot contain our love. There was, there is, no greater, stronger, manlier man.

Wilmer C. Chesson, Secretary

Beaufort County Scottish Rite Club

The Beaufort County Scottish Rite Club held their regular meeting Sunday June 6, at the summer home of G. Eddie Jackson, at Summer Haven on the Pamlico river.

The club was the guest of Inez and Eddie Jackson, and Ethel and Ed Thornton. A hamburger cook-out was held on the patio and spacious lawn.

President Ray Alexander presided. Ashley Leggett gave the invocation.

Caleb B. Bell, Jr., was introduced as a new member. Brother Bell took the Scottish Rite 32 degrees in April of this year. Another new member was recognized although he was not present at this meeting, William T. Ware, recently from Miami, Fla. now residing in Washington and is associated with the local Gibson store. We are glad to have both of these new members.

Caleb Bell and Ashley Leggett asked for the support and cooperation of the club in preparation of the Fall Ceremony of Sudan Temple, which will be held in Washington, November 20th. They explained that this event will be a very big affair and if we have good weather it will bring several thousand people to Washington. The event will be held on Saturday before Thanksgiving. There will

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be about an hour long parade, special attractions are in the making for entertainment for the ladies as well as a dance that night. Needless to say this affair will be a real boost for our merchants.

There being no business, a delightful social hour was enjoyed by the thirty-six members present.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on July 11th at the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Peck Lassiter on Chocowinity Bay just off of Whichards Beach.

Ashley G. Leggett

Martin County Scottish Rite Club

The Martin County Scottish Rite Club met Wed., August 4th in Robersonville at "Your Restaurant".

The meeting was opened by President Bud Swain. Invocation was given by J. L. Williams.

There were 15 members present.

The speaker for the evening was Dr. E. M. Hunt, President of Martin Technical Institute. He explained the workings of Martin Tech and what it means to this part of the state. He also told us something of the structure of the new building. Everyone seemed to enjoy hearing Dr. Hunt.

Our next meeting will be at Town & Country Restaurant, Williamston.

There being no other business we adjourned.

W. R. "Bud" Swain, Pres.
J. L. Williams, V-Pres.
T. Marvin Britton, Sec.-Treas.

New Bern Scottish Rite Club

Labor and the working man command little respect today. Society has decreed that we honor only those who have no need to labor or who profit by the labor of others. It was not always so. It is not so now in Masonry.

Masonry is work. It commemorates the building of a Temple and venerates the Grand Architect of the Universe. Our principal emblems are the working tools of Masons and Artisans. When we Brethren meet, we are "at labor." From these labors has grown a most noble order, serving both the individual and mankind.

Often we set too small a price on labor and deem it not worth the effort. For it is a fact that we many times see the idler apparently faring as well or better than the man striving to earn his own way. But is he as well? No! His monetary gains may be as great but that inner satisfaction of a job well done is missing. It is that satisfaction that will remain with us long after our need and desire for the material thing, has passed on.

All work is noble and is the greatest expression we can make of our love and gratitude to God for allowing us the opportunity to build upon the foundation He laid.

Cease not your labors, Brethren, Honor the work-worn hands of your neighbors as emblems of obedience to a wisdom far above his own. We all stand together, engineers, lawyers, farmers, teachers, carpenters and march toward a better world sympathizing and respecting each other as brothers.

Charles F. Dickinson
Secretary-Treasurer

Onslow-Lejeune Scottish Rite Club

On a beautiful Monday night, May 24, 1971, the Onslow-Lejeune Scottish Rite Club held its regular meeting at the Jacksonville Moose Lodge. At 7:30 p.m the President called the club to order. The invocation was given by Brother Caulk, after which we enjoyed a delicious meal — steak, baked potato and all the trimmings. The steak was prepared as only our good brother, C. O. Gladson knows how. Although we had a minimum of attendance, the brethren and the ladies thoroughly enjoyed their meal.

Brother Dave Brewington presented us with a brief resume of the Vocational Rehabilitation program and the Social Security Disability program.

Following this the meeting was adjourned and we hope that our next meeting to be held in September will have a much greater attendance.

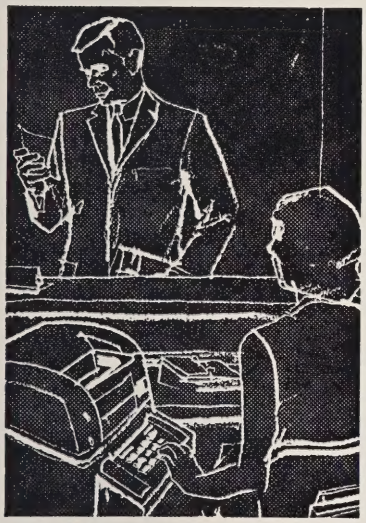
H. E. McNair, Sr.
President

Onslow-Lejeune Scottish Rite Club

Well Brethren, after a hot and damp summer in Onslow County, your Scottish Rite Club is trying to get off to a running start with a meeting scheduled at the Western Steak House for Monday, September 27, 1971.

Your President, Harold McNair, Sr., Brother Jessie Vail and your Secretary-Treasurer, Tom McCree are making a concerted effort to get our membership list coordinated and up to date.

If for any reason you have not been



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getting the notices of meetings, etc., please contact one of the above and help us to get our membership roll up to date. Also, if any former member wishes to get back with the Club just get in touch with one of us or with our Vice-President, Davis W. Owens.

Your Secretary-Treasurer
Thomas W. McCree, Jr.

Perquimans Scottish Rite Club

Perquimans Scottish Rite Club members met in June at our regular meeting and decided to have a cookout party on June 25, 1971 at 7:30 p.m. at Brother Tuck Webb's cottage on the Albemarle Sound.

We have 42 members and 22 were present with three visitors.

We had grilled steaks, stewed onions, french fries, rolls, and ice tea. Brother Webb, Brother C. D. Spivey, Sr., Brother Bob Spivey, and Brother D. J. White prepared the meal.

All members present and our visitors enjoyed the meal very much.

Harvey M. Spivey
Secretary-Treasurer

Do You Care for Others?

Quite frequently we receive expressions of sentiment relating to moral philosophy, religious activity and Masonic opportunities from a number of our Brethren. These are generally very good and whenever possible we delight in sharing such expressions with our membership. The short expression that follows is representative of this and we are happy to include it as a contribution from one of our members, Brother David L. Guthrie, 32°, Morehead City, N. C.

"Every man has not the financial means to contribute as freely as he would like to the welfare of a distressed brother; nor on a basis equal to that of some of his more affluent Brother Masons, regardless of his desire or concern. Some having not been endowed by the Supreme Architect of the Universe with the same qualities or abilities of others, accumulate very few worldly possessions.

"Still, each of us is endowed, yes, entrusted from birth with an equal capacity for caring for others. This quality can be nurtured until we attain that plane which God intended for mankind.

"Conversely, it can wither and die from only an occasional denial of that quality. A denial of the existence of the undeniable. That which is God within man. We are admonished by the Scriptures as well as our Masonic teachings, "Love thy neighbor" — "Love one another".

"This, my Brethren, is true Masonry. We are each bound to it by the same obligation, freely taken out of our own accord.

"Let us practice these precepts upon which our order was founded. This is what distinguishes us from those still in darkness.

"By relying on God, maintaining the continuity of excellence of leadership within the Grand Lodge and lastly, practicing the demands of our obligations to the satisfaction of our consciences, Freemasonry will flourish where all others fail."

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING:

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Mrs. Charles N. Fulcher

Family of Julian B. McCullen

Family of W. H. Collins

Mrs. Grace B. Moss

Family of Frederick Dodd Bonner

Mrs. Jasper Wynne, Sr.

Origin of "Scottish" Rite

Use of "Scottish" in its name has led many Masons to the erroneous belief that our Rite originated in Scotland and that Scotland remains the fountainhead of its activity.

The first reference to the Rite appears in old French records where the word "Ecossais" (meaning Scottish), is to be found.

During the latter part of the 17th century when the British Isles were torn by strife many Scots fled to France and resumed their Masonic interests there. It is felt that this influence contributed to the use of the word "Scottish."

Earliest documented records trace the actual beginnings of the Rite to Bordeaux, France, about the middle of the 18th century. From there it was carried to the French possessions in the West Indies and thence to the United States.

The first Supreme Council was established in Charleston, S. C., in 1801. All other Supreme Councils in the world are descended from it.

It is interesting to note that the Supreme Council for Scotland did not come into being until 1846 and, hence, holds no priority that would call for the work of the Rite to be performed in that country.

—Exchange

What Kind of a Member Are You?

Someone said the membership of an organization is made up of four bones:

There are the wishbones, who spend all their time wishing somebody else would do the work.

There are the jawbones, who do all the talking but very little of anything else.

Next come the knucklebones, who knock everything that everybody else tries to do.

And finally, there are the backbones, who get the load and do the work.

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I AM THE SPIRIT OF FREEMASONRY

I am the Spirit of Freemasonry.

Born in the dim and distant past when men groped about for simple companionship; nurtured by leaders of foresight and ambition who possessed an inward vision of a Great World Brotherhood; matured during the golden age of discovery and invention; obscured for a time by the stress of the world conflict, but eventually destined to emerge into full splendor in a period when race, religion, creed, and politics shall prove no bar to friendship.

In my true form I have never condemned, never prejudiced, never persecuted. Upon my hands are no stains of blood, dishonor, or treason.

I have been friends to the oppressed and downtrodden; I have ministered unto the sick and suffering; my protecting hands have been extended to the helpless widow and the destitute orphan; in war I have ministered unto the wounded; in peace I have provided home for the homeless and relief for the stricken. I have suffered calamity and persecution; I have been condemned by those who have misunderstood me, but have so borne myself as to preserve my dignity and honor.

I have molded the lives of many men. As long as suffering, distress, persecution and injustice remain upon this earth, I shall be needed.

I am the Spirit of Freemasonry,

—Author Unknown

DO IT NOW

Each of us meets daily, on the street, in the factory, in the office, and other places, Master Masons who are not yet members of the Scottish Rite.

One of our responsibilities as Scottish Rite members is to *advise and encourage* such Master Masons to go to Scottish Rite, thereby acquiring a greater knowledge of Freemasonry and a broader outlook of life.

Not only is this our responsibility, but it is our privilege to aid such a brother Master Mason to see further light and to help him get started. One of the greatest satisfactions of your life will be to know that such a mission has been accomplished.

You Are Members

. . . of a fraternity that has led all fraternal organizations in teaching and expounding great moral values. You are members of a fraternity who by precept and example have inculcated patriotism, respect for law and order, and an undying loyalty to the Constitution and to our country. You are members of a fraternity which has been the militant champion of a freedom-loving people, and in exemplifying the lessons of truth's eternal fight against error. As Scottish Rite Masons you support the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, and abide by the cardinal virtues of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. You are members of a fraternity which has fought for the cause of human progress, the freedom of the human conscience, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere. As Scottish Rite Masons you have solemnly subscribed to this highly meaningful and truly inspiring God-like code of life. As Scottish Rite Masons you are members of the World's most purposeful Fraternity. True Scottish Rite Masons who for years have lived by the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, and who have sought further light in Masonry, and who have fought for the cause of freedom, HAVE MADE IT SO."

—Alfred E. Hopkins, 33°, Secretary
Oakland Scottish Rite Bodies

RUSH . . . RUSH? . . .

As we rush through the complexities of life striving to attain this goal or that goal, we often lose sight of and pass over those pleasures that lie close to us. Such things are the good-will of our friends and neighbors—and the peace and security of our homes. These are the things which we need to leaven our busy days in a world filled with anxiety and insecurity. Men, in their search for happiness, must learn to look near at hand for those things that will give them the greatest pleasures.

When we fail to praise a man who deserves praise, two sad things happen. We run a chance of driving him from the right road for want of encouragement, and we deprive ourselves of one of the happiest of all privileges — that of rewarding labor that deserves a reward.

—John Ruskin

JUDGE KINDLY

Don't expect perfection in a man just because he is a Mason. If you do, you will be disappointed. Masonry makes men better, but no human agency makes them perfect. If he is a Mason, you have a right to presume he is a fairly good man, but do not condemn Masonry even if a few Masons turn out bad. Even the Great Teacher himself had a Judas.

The aim and purpose of Masonry is to receive none but good men and keep them good, and make them better. Judge the Institution, not by a few failures, but by the average of its successes. That average is high and it consequently gives standing to its members, but it cannot be an infallible guide.

The Fraternity may decide to do something which you, as an individual member, may oppose. But do not feel that you must condemn the action of that account. You may be right but do not pull away. Even you are not infallible, and the Institution has stood for so many years, you may feel assured that its average performance will be good.

The Guy in the Glass

When you get what you want in your
struggle for gain,
And the world make you king for a day,
Just go to the morror and look at yourself,
And see what the man has to say.
It isn't your father or mother or wife
Whose judgment upon you must pass.
The one whose verdict counts most in
your life
Is the one staring back in the glass.
You may be the one who got a good break
Then think you're a wonderful guy!
But the man in the glass says you're a
fake
If you can't look him straight in the eye.
You may fool the whole world down your
pathway of years
And get pats on the back as you pass,
But your final regard will be heartaches
and tears
If you've cheated the man in the glass!

—Unknown

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In Memoriam

Our memories are precious gifts.
To treasure through the years,
To comfort us when days are dark,
And eyes are dimmed with tears,
Without them we'd be desolate.
When loved ones slip away.
Possessing them our hearts re-live,
And so — when separation comes,
To bring us bitter loss,
Our memories are precious gifts,
To help bear the cross.

Jasper Wynne, 32°, Bethel, N. C.	**June 30, 1970**
Frederick Dodd Bonner, 32°, Aurora, N. C.	**June 3, 1971**
Richard H. Lucas, 33°, Plymouth, N. C.	**June 6, 1971**
Walter N. Bobbitt, 32°, Enfield, N. C.	**May 24, 1971**
Sidney Fain Hutcherson, 32°, Albuquerque, N. M.	**June 20, 1971**
James J. Bland, 32°, Orlando, Fla.	**July 8, 1971**
George W. Hart, 32°, Snow Hill, N. C.	**Sept. 1, 1971**
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Council of Knights of Kadosh	30.00	3.00
Consistory	30.00	3.00
Total	$150.00	$15.00

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Valley of New Bern — Orient of North Carolina

Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America

To the Officers and Members of
New Bern Lodge of Perfection
New Bern Chapter of Knights of Rose Croix ..... 19.....
New Bern Council of Knights of Kadosh (City or Town) Date
New Bern Consistory

BRETHERN:

I, the undersigned, a Master Mason in good standing in.....

Lodge No....., located at.....under the jurisdiction of the Grand
(Give City and State)

Lodge of....., and have been a resident of the State of North Carolina for a period of six months. I have never* previously applied for any of the Scottish Rite Degrees, and I now respectfully petition to receive the Degrees from the....., inclusive, promising always to bear true faith and allegiance to the Supreme Council of the Thirty-Third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States.

Print Name in Full—Do Not Use Initials

Print First Name	Print Middle Name	Print Last Name

Residence.....
City County State

Date of Birth.....
Month Day Year

Place of Birth.....
City County State

Occupation..... **Hat Size**.....
(State what kind of merchant, salesman, engineer, if owner or part owner; if military give branch and rank.)

No. 1. The Supreme Council announces as fundamental principles the following:

"The inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order and undying loyalty to the Constitution of the United States of America.

"The entire separation of church and state and opposition to every attempt to appropriate public monies—federal, state or local—directly or indirectly, for the support of sectarian or private institutions."

Do you approve wholeheartedly of these principles?.....
Yes or No

No. 2. Have you ever held or expressed opinions contrary to the foregoing or been affiliated with any organization which has?..... If you answer "yes" to this question give particulars.
Yes or No

.....

.....

Mailing Address..... **Zip Code**.....

RECOMMENDED BY

.....

.....

Amount of fee accompanying petition, $.....
(Make checks payable to Secretary)

Sign .....
(Signature—Full name, no initials)

*If applicant has previously applied for any of the degrees, he will strike out the word "never," and explain fully time, place, and to whom such application was made.

HAVE TWO MEMBERS OF THE RITE RECOMMEND YOUR APPLICATION:

Address: SECRETARY SCOTTISH RITE,
Masonic Temple, New Bern, N. C.

Credit for Petition Assigned to:.....
(This credit will go toward cap or medal)

Petition Secured By.....
(If Ambassador, indicate such and show Blue Lodge)

.....
(Scottish Rite Club)

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30 to 32 — November 18

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